

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Monday, February 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Deputy Mayor Gamble, Councilors DeLorenzo, and Washington

Also present were: Thom Hooper, Director of Planning and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Possible sale of town owned land for a residence

Mr. Thom Hooper reported that there were several land parcels that the town is exploring to dispose of. The following property listings below are up for consideration:

- There is no current problem with disposing of the property located at W. Eggleston/Greenbriar Drive. The town would like to maintain walkway for access to Rockwell Avenue. The legal paperwork must be completed to finalize this transaction.
- Huckleberry Lane – next to the high school
- East Morningside Ave. – possible Habitat interest to build
- Brooke Street – storm water detention area
- Park Avenue – next to Sutton Place, gifted to Town for public purposes
- Rockwell Avenue – stream, wetlands, watercourse
- Pershing Park area – access to park for neighborhood residents

Councilor Washington inquired about affordable housing opportunities within town.

There have been previous discussions about the Board of Education site on Blue Hills Avenue for affordable housing units.

In addition to the Board of Education current location, the area of tennis courts and the space between P. Faith McMahon Library on Rockwell Avenue is a consideration.

It was recommended that the East Morningside Avenue lot should be recommended for approval at the next Council agenda.

The committee also discussed the status of the property located at 97 Granby Street. There are no purchase inquiries at this time. Mr. Hooper stated that the town will regroup on how to proceed. If anyone is interested that should contact the listing real estate agent or call the Town Manager's Office.

Right of way on Granby Street for Bostwick and Co.

The right a way was discontinued on Charter Avenue North.

Mr. Hooper, Director of Planning and Mr. Jonathan Thiesse, Town Engineer will move forward to abandon any rights on property in this area.

- All abutting properties owners
- Any access rights in the past would remain as is

The Bostwick and Co. will proceed with legal and deed work. The recommendation is to refer this item to the next Council meeting agenda for March 10, 2014.

Mr. Hooper also requested a recommendation to approve the establishment for wildlife and scenic State of Connecticut designation on the East Coast Greenway Project.

It was moved by Councilor DeLorenzo, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to recommend to the full Town Council to approve the establishment for wildlife and scenic State of Connecticut designation.

Update on selection process for Economic Development consultants

The town has been diligently working on a contract to obtain the services of Gorman & York, Economic Development consultants for Bloomfield.

Mr. Schenck, Jr., mentioned that the Economic Development Commission (EDC) and the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce will host their 1st Annual Grub Crawl tentatively on May 17, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. There will be music and food/drink passports available for purchase.

The EDC and the Chamber is also working in collaboration with Leisure Services to lighting up the Bloomfield Town Center with an increase in businesses as well as welcoming change to the overall appearance and fluidity.

Discussion of a possible business development in North Industrial Park

The Niagara Water Company has expressed interest in building a warehouse in town. The project would cost approximately \$40,000,000. They would like to have the facility built and operational by December 2014.

A meeting was held with the Town of Bloomfield, Metro Hartford Alliance and Niagara Water Company to discuss the benefits of coming to Bloomfield. There was some brief discussion regarding tax abatement and Chamber of Commerce resources.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor DeLorenzo, seconded by Councilor Merritt and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.